

INTEGRATED APPLICATION FOR MANIPULATING CONTENT IN A HIERARCHICAL DATA-DRIVEN SEARCH AND NAVIGATION SYSTEM

Abstract

A data-driven, hierarchical information search and navigation system and method

5 enable search and navigation of sets of materials by certain common attributes that
characterize the materials. A rules engine provides for manipulation of the content
displayed to the user based on the query entered by the user. The rules engine includes
one or more rules with a trigger and an action. The action of a rule is performed only if
the trigger is satisfied. A trigger may be specified in terms of expressions of attribute-
10 value pairs and is evaluated against a given query or navigation state. The actions can
include various techniques for content manipulation, such as supplementing content,
rendering content in a particular way, and sorting content in a particular way. An action
may be specified in terms of navigation states. The rules engine may include a script for
processing the rules. An integrated application allows a user to observe, in a unified
15 environment, both the rules engine and the search and navigation system. The integrated
application allows a user to see the consequences of rule changes to search and
navigation results, as well as to use the search and navigation system to create rules.